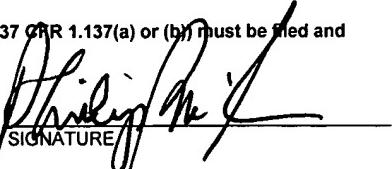
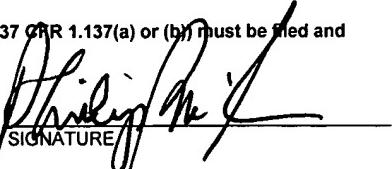
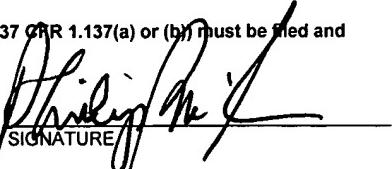


TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A SUBMISSION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 5003073.062US1
		U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5) 10/532,401
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP2003/011830	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 24 October 2003	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 25 October 2002
TITLE OF INVENTION TWO-STEP MIXING PROCESS FOR PRODUCING AN ABSORBENT POLYMER		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US REIMANN, Armin et al. 10/532,401		
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
<p>1. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>3. <input type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.</p> <p>4. <input type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected (Article 31).</p> <p>5. <input type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). </p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). </p> <p>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. </p> <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</p> <p>9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)). (signed)</p> <p>10. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).</p> <p>Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:</p> <p>11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 and 14 references.</p> <p>12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</p> <p>13. <input type="checkbox"/> A preliminary amendment.</p> <p>14. <input type="checkbox"/> An Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76.</p> <p>15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</p> <p>16. <input type="checkbox"/> A power of attorney and/or change of address letter.</p> <p>17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821- 1.825.</p> <p>18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: Notification of Withdrawal of Priority Claim</p>		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.414 and 1.491-1.492. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public, which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 15 minutes to complete, including gathering information, preparing, and submitting the completed form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5) 10/532.401		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP2003/011830		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 5003073.062US1																																																																																																																									
<p>21. The following fees are submitted:</p> <table> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>a) Basic national fee</td> <td>\$300.00</td> <td>Applicant use</td> <td>Office use only</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>b) Examination fee.....</td> <td>\$200.00</td> <td>\$</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>c) Search fee.....</td> <td>\$500.00</td> <td>\$</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS = \$1000.00</td> <td>\$</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> </table> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing or computer program listing filed in an electronic medium). The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof.</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>Total Sheets</th> <th>Extra sheets</th> <th>Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole number)</th> <th>RATE</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>49 -100 =</td> <td>0/50 =</td> <td></td> <td>x \$250.00</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>CLAIMS</th> <th>NUMBER FILED</th> <th>NUMBER EXTRA</th> <th>RATE</th> <th>\$</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total claims</td> <td>22 -20=</td> <td>2</td> <td>x \$50.00</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Independent claims</td> <td>2 - 3 =</td> <td>0</td> <td>x \$200.00</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)</td> <td>+ \$360.00</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4"><input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by ½.</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">SUBTOTAL =</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property</td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =</td> <td>\$130.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4"> 130.00 OP Amount to be refunded: Amount to be charged </td> <td>\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="5"> a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of <u>\$130.00</u> to cover the above fees is enclosed. b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$_____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 502190. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. d. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038. </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="5"> NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the International Application to pending status. </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="5">SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="5"> SMITH MOORE LLP (Customer No. 29737) P.O. Box 21927 Greensboro, NC 27420 </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="5">  SIGNATURE Philip P. McCann NAME </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="5"> 30,919 REGISTRATION NUMBER </td> </tr> </tbody></table>						<input type="checkbox"/>	a) Basic national fee	\$300.00	Applicant use	Office use only	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Examination fee.....	\$200.00	\$	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Search fee.....	\$500.00	\$	\$	TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS = \$1000.00			\$	\$	Total Sheets	Extra sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole number)	RATE		49 -100 =	0/50 =		x \$250.00	\$	CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	\$	Total claims	22 -20=	2	x \$50.00	\$	Independent claims	2 - 3 =	0	x \$200.00	\$	MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)			+ \$360.00	\$	TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. 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Rec'd PCT/PTO 19 AUG 2005
10/532401

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: Armin REIMANN *et al.*
Application Serial No. 10/532,401
Filed: 22 April 2005
Confirmation No. 9125
International Application No. PCT/EP2003/011830
International Filing Date: October 24, 2003

For: **TWO-STEP MIXING PROCESS FOR PRODUCING AN ABSORBENT POLYMER**

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

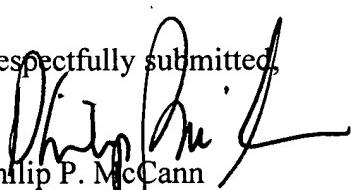
TRANSMITTAL OF MISSING REQUIREMENTS

Dear Sir:

We have not yet received the Notification of Missing Requirements Under 35 U.S.C. 371 In The United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) (Form PCT/EO/EO/905) in connection with the above-referenced application. However, we have been advised by the PCT Help Desk that it would be beneficial to submit the documents and fees required to complete the 371 filing requirements. Accordingly, enclosed herewith are the signed Declaration and Power of Attorney for Patent Application and \$130.00 surcharge to complete the requirements for acceptance under 35 U.S.C. 371. Please make this document of record in connection with the above-referenced serial number.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 502190.

Respectfully submitted,


Philip P. McCann
Reg. No. 30,919

SMITH MOORE LLP
P.O. Box 21927
Greensboro, NC 27420
(336) 378-5302

Date: August 19, 2005

Docket No.: 5003073-062US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

Express Mail mailing label number: EV 279 644 464 US

Date of Deposit: August 19, 2005

Document(s): Return Postcard

Check in the amount of \$130.00

Transmittal Letter to the U.S. Designated/Elected Office
(DO/EO/US) Concerning A Filing Under 35 U.S.C. 371 -
- 2 pages

Transmittal of Missing Requirements - 1 page

Declaration and Power of Attorney for Patent Application
- 4 pages

English Translation of the International Preliminary
Examination Report - 7 pages

Notification of Withdrawal of Priority Claim - 1 page

Information Disclosure Statement and 14 references

Serial No.: 10/532,401

Filing Date: April 22, 2005

I hereby certify that the documents identified above in connection with our File No. 5003073-062US1 are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Mailed by: Lorna D. Selvaggio
Lorna D. Selvaggio